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#### IAB SH2286367

AUDIO/VIDEO TRACKING SHEET

**ACTIVITY LOG** 

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INVOLVED DEPUTY INTERVIEWS

Deputy Daniel Castro IAB firearm retrieval Deputy Daniel Castro IAB interview

#### WITNESS INTERVIEWS

Witness
Suspect Eduardo Gomez
Suspect Jesus Gomez

IAB interview
West Hollywood DB interview
West Hollywood DB interview

#### **EXHIBITS**

- A (1) SH-49 authored by Deputy J. Goble, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy C. Aguilar, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy A. Biag, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy M. Luna, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy J. Gutierrez, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy J. Heald, (1) Traffic Collision Report authored by Deputy L. McCullough, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Detective R. Lopez, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Detective G. Boagni, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy R. Davidson, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Senior Criminalist F. Lamas, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy Jesse J. Olivas, (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy R. Slate, and (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy R. Slate, and (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy R. Slate, and (1) Supplemental Report authored by Deputy Paul H. Kashani.
- B Supplemental Report authored by Deputy Castro, File #011-02073-0978-053
- C Diagram and two (2) photos used during Deputy Castro's IAB interview

- D Crime scene sketch and evidence list for 9059 Sunset Boulevard
- E Crime scene sketch and evidence list for 8901 Sunset Boulevard
- F Three (3) CD's containing digital photographs of the crime and shooting scenes, suspect's vehicle and aerial perspectives
- G Pursuit evaluation form with map

#### MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

Admonition form
West Hollywood EM in-service dated 04-12-11
Firearm testing results
Deputy Castro firearms qualification records
CCHRS report of Suspect Eduardo Gomez
CCHRS report of Witness Jesus Gomez
Deputy daily worksheet unit 94/E dated 04-12-11
Incident history report #WHD111101-0139

# Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Officer Involved Shooting

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Location: 1111				an assault with a deadly weapon vehicle. At the terminus of the pursuit he fired one round from his Beretta at the suspect driver								
				who appeared to be armed with a dark handgun.								
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### Officer Involved Shooting

URN: 011-02073-0978-053

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## Officer Involved Shooting involved Employee Information

URN: 011-02073-0978-053

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### Officer Involved Shooting Suspect Information

URN: 011-02073-0978-053

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Supper liniohantea Last Name Gomez First Name Eduardo M.I. AKA Last Name M.L Street Address City Social Security Driver's License #: CDL # Work Phone: D.O.B. Height: FBI# 505 180 08-13-90 Primary Charge: Booking # Secondary Charge: 245(a)(1) PC 2704198 23153(a) CVC Coroner Case # Substance Used: Coroner Case? Intoxication/Drug Usage? Alcohol Mental Illness? Armed? Apprehended? Criminal History? Vehicle Make Model: 2006 Saturn Vue Last Name First Name M.I. AKA Last Name First Name M.I. Sex Race: Street Address: City State & Zip Code: Home Phone: Social Security #: Work Phone: Driver's License #: D.O.B. F8I# Age: Height: Weight: CII# Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge: Coroner Case # Substance Used: Intoxication/Drug Usage? Coroner Case? Armed? Apprehended? Mental Illness? Criminal History? Vehicle Make Michigan Williams Last Name First Name M.L S AKA Last Name First Name M.L Race: Street Address State & Zip Code: Sex: City Work Phone: Home Phone: Social Security #: Driver's License #: D.Q.B. Height: Weight: FBI# Age: Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge: Coroner Case # Substance Used: Intoxication/Drug Usage? Coroner Case? Armed? Apprehended? Mental Illness? Criminal History? Vehicle Make Model: Year: Last Name First Name M.I. AKA Last Name First Name М.Т. Street Address: Sex: Race City State & Zip Code: Work Phone: Home Phone: Social Security #: Driver's License #: D.O.8. FBI# Age: Height: Weight: ÇII# Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge: Coroner Case # Substance Used: Coroner Case? Intoxication/Drug Usage? Armed? Apprehended? Mental Illness? Criminal History? Vehicle Make Model: Year: Communication and the communication of the communic

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

#### INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

#### DEPUTY INVOLVED SHOOTING

UNIT: WEST HOLLYWOOD STATION

DATE / TIME OF

INCIDENT: APRIL 11, 2011 (MONDAY) / 2317 HOURS

LOCATION: 1111 DOHENY DRIVE WEST HOLLYWOOD

URN: 011-02073-0986-053

IAB #: SH2286367

#### **OPENING STATEMENT**

On Monday, April 11, 2011, IAB investigators Sergeant Chad Smeltzer, Sergeant Patrick Kim and Lieutenant Alicia Ault responded to a command post erected by West Hollywood Station personnel regarding a Deputy Involved Non-Hit Shooting. Investigators learned from West Hollywood Station personnel that West Hollywood Station Deputy Daniel Castro was involved in a non-hit shooting during a traffic stop.

#### SYNOPSIS

On Monday, April 11, 2011, at approximately 2317 hours, patrons of the Whisky-A-Go-Go nightclub called West Hollywood Sheriff's Station via 9-1-1 to report a fight in the parking lot. While the call was being dispatched the call was updated to a call of a vehicle versus pedestrian collision with the suspect vehicle fleeing. Patrons reported that a red Nissan Sentra was involved and Deputy Castro began scanning the area for the car. As he approached the Whisky-A-Go-Go, he saw a red vehicle make a right turn onto Sunset Boulevard at a high rate of speed.

This vehicle was traveling westbound in the eastbound lanes, making a loud screeching noise and on a trajectory to collide with Deputy Castro's vehicle. Suddenly, the vehicle veered into the westbound lanes.

Deputy Castro saw the vehicle was a Saturn SUV and noticed this vehicle had collision damage to its front end and windshield. Several people ran into the street and pointed toward the Saturn. Several patrons yelled that the driver of the Saturn had just killed someone and ran over three people. Believing this vehicle was related to the call, Deputy Castro made a U-turn and attempted to stop the vehicle.

When the driver of the vehicle failed to yield, Deputy Castro initiated a vehicle pursuit which covered less than a half mile in distance and was no longer than thirty-five seconds in duration. The driver suddenly yielded on Doheny Drive north of Sunset Boulevard.

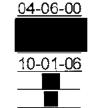
Deputy Castro gave commands for the occupants to raise their hands over their heads. The passenger complied however, the driver, Eduardo Gomez failed to comply. Deputy Castro saw Eduardo Gomez put his hands together, grip style, and point a dark colored object toward him. Fearing for his safety, Deputy Castro fired one round from his Department issued 9mm Beretta striking the driver's side door handle area. Immediately, Eduardo Gomez complied and raised his hands over his head. Moments later, assisting units and a field sergeant arrived on scene and took Eduardo Gomez and Jesus Gomez into custody without further incident. No weapon was recovered from the vehicle.

#### INVOLVED PERSONNEL AND EMPLOYEE WORK HISTORY

#### Deputy Daniel Castro #

West Hollywood Station

Date of employment
Date assigned to patrol
Date completed patrol training
Date assigned to West Hollywood Station
Prior shooting incidents
Prior founded force incidents



#### SUSPECT INFORMATION

#### Eduardo Gomez

Male, Hispanic, DOB: 08-13-90, Booking #2704198, 5'5", 180 lbs

CII # MAIN # FBI #

Suspect Gomez was arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol Causing Injury, 23153(A) VC, Assault with a Deadly Weapon, 245(A)(1) PC and Failing to Comply With Driver's Duties When Involved in an Injury Accident, 20003 VC.

WITNESSES		
	<u>Bystander</u>	

#### **INJURIES**

Neither Deputy Daniel Castro nor Suspect Eduardo Gomez were injured.

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

A red 2006 Saturn Vue Ca. License # was seen parked on Doheny Drive north of Sunset Boulevard close to the east curb. A black and white Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department patrol car #SD7146 was seen parked behind the Saturn Vue also facing north. The patrol's car headlights and vehicle spotlights were activated and the front doors of the vehicle were open. One expended 9mm shell casing was located on the roadway surface on Doheny Drive near Deputy Castro's patrol car. An apparent bullet hole was seen in the suspect vehicle's driver door handle area. Blood was seen on the driver's armrest inside the suspect vehicle. A black cell phone was recovered from the inside the suspect vehicle. For further details regarding the location and collection of evidence, refer to reports authored by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department personnel [Exhibit A]. A crime scene sketch [Exhibit D] of the shooting scene was completed by Department Crime Lab personnel.

#### INVESTIGATORS OBSERVATIONS

#### WEAPON USED BY DEPUTY CASTRO

Deputy Castro fired one round of Department issued 9mm ammunition from his Department issued Beretta 92FS 9mm semi-automatic pistol.

#### WEAPON USED BY SUSPECT GOMEZ

No weapons were located on or near Subject Gomez.

#### PROPERTY DAMAGE

None

#### CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS AND CHARGES FILED

Investigators: Detective Randy Lopez, West Hollywood Station

Charges Filed: Three counts of Assault with a Deadly Weapon, 245(A)(1) PC,

Mayhem, 203 PC, Driving Under the Influence Causing Injury, 23153(A) VC, Driving Under the Influence with a Blood Alcohol Level of .08 or Higher, 23153(B) VC, Hit and Run Causing Property Damage, 20001(A) VC, Hit and Run Causing Injury, 20002(A) VC

were filed on Suspect Gomez.

Case Status: On June 16, 2011, a preliminary hearing was held and Suspect

Gomez was held to answer.

#### LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

The shooting took place during the hours of darkness at approximately 2317 hours. The weather was cool, dry and clear.

#### WITNESS STATEMENTS

The following narratives are intended only as a synopsis of the interviews. Additional information and precise wording may be obtained by reviewing the digitally audio recorded interviews and verbatim transcriptions.

#### **DEPUTY DANIEL CASTRO**

Deputy Daniel Castro authored a Supplemental Report [Exhibit B] regarding his actions and observations. During Deputy Castro's IAB interview, a diagram and two photographs were used for clarification [Exhibit C]. The photographs were printed from the crime scene photo disc [Exhibit F].

On May 2, 2011, IAB investigators conducted a shooting review interview with Deputy Daniel Castro. Deputy Castro said on April 11, 2011, he was assigned to work the early

morning shift from hours until hours. At the time of the incident he had been assigned to West Hollywood Station for four and a half years. On the night on the incident Deputy Castro was monitoring two Sheriff radio frequencies. Deputy Castro's portable radio was set to the dispatch frequency and his vehicle's radio was set to L-Tac. Deputy Castro heard information on his assigned L-Tac frequency regarding a fight call at the Whiskey-A-Go-Go on Sunset Boulevard.

He responded to the call as an assisting unit and received an update from West Hollywood Station desk personnel that a red Nissan Sentra was involved and had fled westbound on Sunset Boulevard. Deputy Castro was tasked with checking west of the location for the red Nissan. Deputy Castro scanned Sunset Boulevard west of the location for the red Nissan and was then tasked with responding to the location to locate any victims and perform a crime broadcast. As Deputy Castro drove eastbound Sunset Boulevard approaching the Whisky-A-Go-Go, he saw a red SUV (CA license # turn from southbound Clark Seet to westbound Sunset Boulevard.

As the SUV turned, it fish tailed and it began to drive toward Deputy Castro in his lane of travel. Deputy Castro could see the driver, Suspect Eduardo Gomez, but did not see any other occupants in the vehicle. As Deputy Castro saw the vehicle coming toward him he heard people yelling and he heard West Hollywood desk personnel broadcast on L-Tac that a vehicle had overturned at the location. The desk personnel corrected the information and stated a vehicle at the location had ran over people.

As the vehicle approached him, he could see the front bumper was damaged, and the windshield appeared to have been hit. When the SUV was approximately twenty-five to thirty feet from his vehicle it veered into the westbound lanes. Deputy Castro saw people running after the SUV and toward his patrol car. Deputy Castro stopped his patrol car and heard the group of people yelling, but distinctly heard a male voice state the SUV had ran over three people and he had killed somebody.

Deputy Castro immediately conducted a U-turn and began to close the distance to catch up to the SUV. As Deputy Castro approached the vehicle near Wetherly Drive he activated his overhead red lights and siren to stop the vehicle. The SUV failed to stop and accelererated westbound Sunset Boulevard. Deputy Castro broadcast that he was in vehicle pursuit. As he broadcast information regarding the vehicle pursuit the SUV turned northbound Doheny Drive, pulled to the curb and stopped. He estimated the fastest he drove pursuing the SUV was thirty-five miles per hour.

Deputy Castro stopped behind the SUV, exited his vehicle and broadcast that he was detaining the SUV occupants at gunpoint. He said the SUV was illuminated with his vehicle's spotlights and he could see inside the SUV. Deputy Castro said he did not realize there was a passenger in the vehicle until the SUV had stopped. He ordered the occupants to raise their hands over their heads. The front passenger complied. Deputy Castro saw

that the driver had his hands together and his forearms were parallel as if he was holding something. Deputy Castro saw the driver turn to his left holding an object in his hands.

Deputy Castro saw Suspect Gomez pointing a dark object in his direction coupled with the previous statement that Suspect Gomez had killed someone, Deputy Castro feared Suspect Gomez was armed with a firearm and was going to shoot him. Deputy Castro fired his Department issued Beretta handgun once at Suspect Gomez. Deputy Castro feared he was about to be shot and he ducked to the left as he fired.

After Deputy Castro shot his Beretta, Suspect Gomez immediately raised his hands and Suspect Gomez was no longer a threat, so he did not fire additional shots. Deputy Castro immediately used his portable radio to broadcast that he had been involved in a shooting. He said Suspect Gomez immediately dropped the object he had been holding, although he did not see it fall. Deputy Castro said the passenger, Witness remained still and Suspect Gomez continued to move his body after raising his hands. The SUV's windows were up at the time of the shooting.

Deputy Castro estimated his vehicle was seven to ten feet from the SUV at the time of the shooting. He said his back drop was clear of people. He aimed at the driver and was able to use his Beretta's sights. Deputy Castro said neither occupant said anything to him prior to or after the shooting. Deputy Castro estimated the first assisting unit arrived within ten to fifteen seconds and the occupants were extracted without incident.

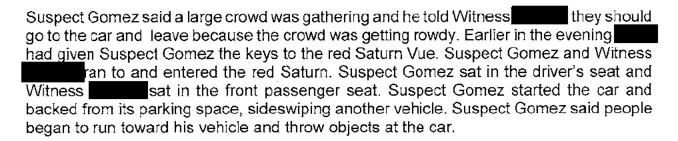
#### WITNESS

On April 19, 2011, Witness participated in a telephone interview with IAB Sergeant Chad Smeltzer. Witness said on April 11, 2011, at approximately 2307 hours he was in the Citibank parking lot cleaning the windshield of his car. He heard tires screeching from a vehicle and the sound of a siren activated once, but not continuously. Witness walked to the driveway entrance and a red Saturn four door SUV stopped ten to fifteen feet from him. He saw the car had collision damage to the front bumper, the passenger side tail light was hanging and the rear bumper was on the ground.

Approximately two seconds later a police officer arrived. The deputy exited his car and shouted, "show me your hands" three times and he pointed his handgun at the SUV. The deputy was alone and stood outside of his patrol car and used the driver door as cover. After Witness heard the third command he heard a gun fire, which he described as a pop. Witness did not see a muzzle flash when he heard the pop, because he was looking at the business where he worked and was thinking he should go indoors. After Witness heard the gunshot, he ran westbound across Doheny Drive to his place of employment in case more shooting occurred. Witness could not see how many occupants were in the red car nor could he see the occupants actions. He said the

SUV's windows were tinted. Witness said he was positioned slightly behind the deputy's car and was approximately ten to fifteen feet from Deputy Castro.
The patrol car's overhead red and blue lights were activated. Witness estimated the distance between the patrol car and the SUV to be between seven and ten feet. Witness estimated from the time Deputy Castro stopped the SUV until he heard the gunshot, was within ten seconds. He said it was dark at the time of the shooting, but did not notice if any street lights were activated.
WITNESS
Witness was seated in the right-front passenger seat of the vehicle stopped by Deputy Castro. Witness is the fight which occurred at the Whiskey-A-Go-Go.
On April 12, 2011, West Hollywood Detectives interviewed Suspect Eduardo Gomez. IAB investigators monitored the interview through an audic-video surveillance system. The audio portion of the interview was digitally recorded. Witness was advised of his Miranda rights and agreed to speak about this incident without an attorney present.
Witness said he attended the Whisky-A-Go-Go with his Suspect Eduardo Gomez to watch some music bands perform. He said he drank one German beer before arriving at the Whiskey-A-Go-Go. After the last song of the night Witness and Suspect Gomez exited the building. Witness said their friend named fought with an unknown male outside the club. Witness said he attempted to pull off of the unknown male he was fighting. He believed Suspect Gomez was able to pull off of the male. Witness and Suspect Gomez entered the red Saturn Vue. Suspect Gomez drove and Witness sat in the front passenger seat. As Suspect Gomez backed up, the driver's side of their vehicle sideswiped the passenger side of a black car.
As Suspect Gomez drove, a crowd of people approached their car and threw objects at the car. He said Suspect Gomez attempted to avoid the group of people, but struck some of them. Witness said Suspect Gomez stopped the vehicle, but members of the crowd started to kick their vehicle and attempted to open the vehicle doors. He said Suspect Gomez drove away making a right turn onto a street and then a second right turn onto Sunset Boulevard.
As they drove on Sunset Boulevard, Witness became aware of a police car behind their vehicle at Sunset Boulevard and Doheny Drive. He said Suspect Gomez stopped the vehicle within a couple of seconds of noticing the police car. The police car had it lights and siren on. Suspect Gomez stopped the car and told Witness to put his hands up. He said Suspect Gomez started tripping out, and telling Witness it was okay to cry.

He said Suspect Gomez turned off the car and raised his hands. Witness said he heard a gunshot, but did not think it was a gunshot. He said something hit the car and he became scared. He asked Suspect Gomez if they had been shot at. Suspect Gomez said he did not know and told Witness to call his Witness retrieved the cell phone and gave it to Suspect Gomez. Witness said he could heard verbal commands telling them, "Let me see your hands". He said Suspect Gomez dropped the cell phone and they kept their hands up. Witness said they did not make a phone call as they sat in their vehicle.
Witness said Suspect Gomez had held the phone in his right hand. He described the cell phone as a black T-Mobile phone with a clear face. Witness said he was moving more than Suspect Gomez in the car when they had their hands up. Witness Gomez said there was a long pause where they remained seated in the car and he assumed the deputy was waiting for more deputies to arrive. Eventually he and Suspect Gomez were ordered to exit the car.
Witness said he had his seatbelt on at the time of the incident and he was not injured.
SUSPECT EDUARDO GOMEZ
Suspect Eduardo Gomez was the driver of the Saturn Vue, which Deputy Castro stopped at the conclusion of the vehicle pursuit. Suspect Eduardo Gomez is an older brother to Witness
On April 12, 2011, West Hollywood Detectives interviewed Suspect Eduardo Gomez. IAB investigators monitored the interview through an audio-video surveillance system. The audio portion of the interview was digitally recorded. Suspect Gomez was advised of his Miranda rights and agreed to speak about this incident without an attorney present.
Suspect Eduardo Gomez said he attended the Whisky-A-Go-Go with his brother Witness and a named who sings in a band named Suspect Gomez said he drank three German beers before arriving at the Whiskey-A-Go-Go and denied drinking alcohol at the club. After band finished playing he and Witness assisted band members loading music equipment into a truck. Suspect Gomez and Witness attention was drawn to a fight that was occurring in the alley between their and another male. They attempted to stop the fight and separate from the other male. Suspect Gomez said neither he or Witness hit the male.



Suspect Gomez drove eastbound in the rear alley and people stood in the middle of the alley telling them to stop. He said he did not stop because he was afraid and he continued eastbound and struck a dip in the street and lost control of the vehicle. Suspect Gomez said his vehicle swerved and struck the sidewalk and a post. He continued driving southbound Clark Street to westbound Sunset Boulevard. Suspect Gomez said he noticed a Sheriff's car close behind them with it lights and siren on. Suspect Gomez said he did not want to pull over on Sunset Boulevard because there were too many parked cars.

Suspect Gomez was aware the vehicle had been damaged. Suspect Gomez said he drove approximately one or two blocks and turned right onto an unknown street. Suspect Gomez said he turned the vehicle's engine off and told his brother to put his hands in the air. He said he did not know how to roll the windows down since the vehicle was not his. Suspect Gomez said he looked over his left shoulder to look at the deputy who stopped them. He could not see the deputy because the patrol car's spotlights were bright. Suspect Gomez said after he looked over his shoulder he heard a bang noise, which sounded like a gunshot. Suspect Gomez denied holding anything in his hands when they were raised. Suspect Gomez said his had his cell phone in the car. He said after a few moments the deputy told him and his brother to exit the vehicle.

Suspect Gomez said he was not injured by the deputies and neither he nor his brother were shot. Suspect Gomez said neither he nor Witness possessed a gun or any other weapon in the car. Suspect Gomez said he does not have any mental health issues and is currently attending Narcotics Anonymous.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A crime scene sketch **[Exhibit E]** was completed of the Whiskey-A-Go-Go parking lot area where the fight occurred prior to Deputy Castro's vehicle pursuit and shooting.

A vehicle pursuit evaluation form and pursuit route map [Exhibit G] were completed to document the vehicle pursuit.